

THE PRESS.

TUESDAY MORNING, FEB. 25, 1873.

Gossip and Gleanings.

A grave crier in an English church forbade the banns of a certain young couple because he had "intended Hannah for himself."

A Jersey City man told his wife that he was going to shoot himself on Thursday, and, after silencing her objections by threatening to shoot her, he made good his word.

An easy-going Chicago husband declining to interfere between his wife and her all-too-faithful lover, her brother took it upon himself to avenge the loss of her honor by shooting the brother.

The Waco (Tex.) Register says: Fred Grant, the president's son, is at Fort Griffin. He is a second lieutenant, and his modest, unassuming deportment renders him popular with officers and men.

Flirtations on the stairs are so popular in Washington society, and the stairways are so crowded thereby, that there is talk of having

The George Washington who was arrested

plea that he needed them for the 22d, the learned Court remarking that people don't wear pantaloons on their birthdays.

Enterprising New York saloon-keepers are organizing their dens into "colleges," so as to get the drawback on whiskey used for "scientific purposes," under the bill just passed in the House.

American girls need not be ashamed of themselves as long as such advertisements as this appear in *The London Lancet*: "Wanted

Mr. Cook of Cincinnati lost his wife, about eight months since, on which account he has been much dejected, and the other night he was found lying on her grave with both legs frozen. He refuses to submit to an amputation, saying he would rather die.

Springs is going to be bigger than all outdoors."¹⁷ The principal part will be 500 feet long by 52 feet deep, with a wing 65 feet in length. The kitchen will be 125 feet long and the dining-room twice that length. The piazzas of the wing and front will be over half a mile in extent.

The president of Vassar college denies that the trustees have issued any order against

statement with reference to the general subject of extravagance in dress at that institution: As for the students, they get "line upon line, precept upon precept"—tight lacing, false hair, and showy jewelry included; and, I am bound to say, the most of them profit by the instructions. The great majority of Vassar college students are not liable to the imputations of vulgar tastes and fashion-

Here is one of the latest confidence games: A well dressed young man stops at a country hotel and makes himself agreeable to the other guests; two days afterwards a nice-looking young woman comes along and stops there, too; young man looks her over with the other fellows, and offers to bet a goodly sum that he will propose to her, be accepted and have the ceremony performed at once.

man's proposal and the priest does the rest. The bets are paid over, and sometime after the dupes learn that the couple have been married more than a year.

The Earliest Newspaper.

Authorities have differed widely as to the nation and city entitled to the honor of having started the first printed newspaper. For many years it was supposed that the credit

The British museum had a copy of the earliest paper in its collection. It was called the *English Mercurie*, and printed July 28, 1588, but it has been shown that this copy, like specimens of rare old coins, was spurious, and gotten up for sale. Watts, the bibliographer of the museum, who saw, on examination, that the type and paper were of modern origin, and did not belong to the sixteenth century, exposed the forgery. It was an ingenious fabrication, pretending to give the news of the Spanish Armada, which was des-

Venice has also claimed the honor of leading the way in giving newspapers to the world. The *Gazetta*, thus named because it sold for a small piece of money called gazetta, it is asserted, was printed there in 1570, and it is pretended that copies of this paper of that date are in one or two collections in London. But late discoveries have apparently established the claim of the old German

called the *Gazeta*, according to trustworthy authorities, was printed in that city as early as 1457, five years after Peter Schoeffer cast the first metal type in matrices. Nuremberg, with the first paper in the fifteenth century, also claims the honor of the first paper in the sixteenth century. There is an anciently printed sheet in the Libra collection which antedates all others except the sheet of 1457 and the *Chronicle* of Cologne. It is called the *Neue Zeitung aus Hispanien und Italien*, and bears the date of February, 1534.

Thus to Germany belongs the honor not only of the first printers and the first printing, but also of the first printed newspaper. It has also another claim to distinction. In 1615 Egenolf Earmel started *Die Frankfurter Oberpostamt's Zeitung*, the first daily paper in the world. This paper is still published; and the city of Frankfurt is to erect a monument in honor of its founder and editor as the father of newspapers. —From "Newspapers and Editors," by S. S. Conant.

FLOGGING.—We observe regular reports in the London newspapers of the floggings at Newgate Prison. This noble chastisement, for instance, was administered on the 29th of January to five culprits, and the Echo says "The punishment was inflicted by two wardens of Holloway Prison, and the back of each culprit was marked by a broad crimson band where the 'cat' had done its work. Watson, a strongly built man, although no doubt feeling such the time, the carle

ously." It may be necessary to remind the reader that this is the year of our Lord 1873, and that this cheering intelligence comes from enlightened and merry England.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

PHYSIOLOGICAL IMPEDIMENTS.—"How beautiful!" said the tallest of American poets, regarding with delight the Mosaic cherubs (Raphael's) on a lady's sleeve-buttons. "How beautiful!"

"What a pity!" replied the lady, mischievously.

"Ah!" answered S—, "I really think we might be, if we were physically constructed in the same way—all head and wings!"—
Editor's Drawer, in Harper's Magazine for March.

